



August 2, 2026 "The Hostage Dynamic"

LOVE GOD—LOVE PEOPLE—SERVE THE WORLD

This series will bring us to a place of decision. A decision to either stay bound by our captor or set free by our Creator.

Psalm 34:1–6

2 Corinthians 9:8 NKJV And God is able to make **all** grace abound toward you, that you, **always** having **all** sufficiency in **all** things, may have an abundance for **every** good work.

✦ The core promise here in 2 Corinthians is that God's abundant grace is available for us in every area of life.

Romans 8:27-28

✦ Keeping bondages held hostage can lead to becoming compliant, and complacent, and a lot of times, leads to complicity.

The hostage dynamic is a psychological trap in which the "captor" demands control yet ends up entirely consumed and constrained by the very thing they hold hostage.

✦ Spiritual hostage situations can produce things like:

1. The Burden of Self-Protection. **Matthew 16:24–26**
2. The Illusion of Control. **Matthew 11:28–30**
3. The "Stockholm Syndrome" of the Soul.
4. The Freedom of Open Hands.

When you surrender something, you release it from your own captivity and acknowledge God's ultimate sovereignty.

✦ **Proverbs 3:5–6** The Hebrew word for trust means to lie down on—to put your entire weight on something.

✦ **CHALLENGE:** "What one thing in your life is keeping you bound and in a place of doubt rather than faith?"

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✦ All scripture is taken from the NLT unless otherwise noted.